

Application No.: 10/552,516

Docket No.: JCLA17841

REMARKS**Present Status of the Application**

Figures 1a, 1b, 1c, 2a, 2b and 4a should be designated by a legend such as-- "Prior Art"—because only that which is old is illustrated.

Claims 7~11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 7 recites the limitation "the structure supporting means" in line 5. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claims 1, 5, 6 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by *Freeman* (US 5,433,556; hereinafter "*Freeman*").

Claims 2~4 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in dependent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 8~11 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the objections and rejections under 35 U.S.C 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In response thereto, Applicants have provided "Replacement Sheets", amended Claims 1, 3, 4, 7, 9, 10 and 11 to more clearly define the claimed invention and canceled Claims 2, 6 and 8, and respectfully traverse all the rejections on the ground set forth in detail below.

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Response to the Drawing Objections

Figures 1a, 1b, 1c, 2a, 2b and 4a should be designated by a legend such as-- "Prior Art"--because only that which is old is illustrated.

In response to the drawing objection, Applicants have submitted replacement sheets of the pending drawing of Figure 1a, 1b, 1c, 2a, 2b and 4a in which a legend --"Prior Art"-- is designated.

Response to the Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112

Claims 7-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 7 recites the limitation "the structure supporting means" in line 5. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

In response thereto, applicant have amended claim 7 to "a structure supporting means" for solving the rejection under 35 U.S.C 112 and insufficient antecedent basis problem.

Response to Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(b)

Claims 1, 5, 6 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Freeman (US 5,433,556).

In response thereto, Applicants have amended Claims 1, 3, 4, 7, 9, 10 and 11 to more clearly distinguish the claimed invention from *Freeman*. Claims 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10 and 11 should be patentable over *Freeman*, since *Freeman* fails to disclose technical features described in Claims 2 and 8.

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More specifically, Claim 2 is combined into Claim 1; Claim 8 is combined into Claim 7; and Related dependent relationship is corrected correspondingly.

Since independent Claims 1 and 7 are allowable, claims dependent thereon should also be allowed as a matter of law for they contain all of the limitations of their respective independent claim. In re Fine, 837 F.2d 1071 (Fed. Cir. 1988).

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 2~4 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in dependent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 8~11 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the objections and rejections under 35 U.S.C 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant appreciates the above opinions of this outstanding Office Action. Claims 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10 and 11 are believed to have been placed in proper condition for allowance because the objections and rejections thereto have been overcome by above amendments.

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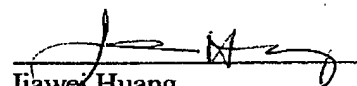
CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that all the pending Claims 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10 and 11 of the present application patently define over the prior art and are in proper condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

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Respectfully submitted,
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